

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 9, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 are canceled. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17-18 are pending in this application, with claim 7 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 7, 13, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over FR 2,569,827 (Gudymov) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,188,915 (Kummel).

Claims 9, 11, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Gudymov and Kummel in further view of U.S. Patent No. 2,231,295 (Price).

Claim 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Gudymov, Kummel, and Price in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,667,758 (Matsugi).

A telephonic interview was conducted on July 14, 2005 between the Examiner Basia Ridley and Applicant's undersigned representative. The time and consideration provided by the Examiner during the interview are greatly appreciated. The subject matter of the interview is discussed below.

Independent claim 7 is amended to clarify that the pressure shell "absorbs the difference between the reactor chamber and the ambient pressure outside of the reactor wall". Support for this limitation is found in the specification at page 5, lines 23-26. Independent claim further recites a water-cooled cooling gap is defined by the pressure shell and a cooling wall, wherein the cooling wall is arranged inside of the pressure shell. It is respectfully submitted that none of the prior art documents of records, taken alone or in combination disclose, teach or suggest the claimed configuration.

As discussed during the telephonic interview of July 14, 2005, Gudymov discloses a cooled screen as an internal lining for the reaction spaces of furnace installations. The device disclosed by Gudymov is similar to the prior art discussed on page 3, lines 1-13, of the original application. More specifically, Gudymov discloses a cooled screen as an internal lining for the reaction space of furnace installations. Since the cooled screen of Gudymov is expressly described as an internal lining, none of the walls of the cooled screen can be considered to be the recited pressure shell that absorbs the difference between the reactor chamber and the ambient pressure outside of the reactor wall. Since the water gap disclosed by Gudymov is part of an internal lining, Gudymov fails to teach or suggest "a water-cooled cooling gap" defined by the pressure shell and a cooling wall inside the pressure shell, as now expressly recited in independent claim 1.

Kummel fails to teach or suggest what Gudymov lacks. Kummel discloses a water-cooled high-temperature gasifier in which cooling tubes extend vertically through the walls of the gasifier. According to Kummel, a wall 1 includes adjacent tubes 37 connected by vertical webs 38. A covering 40 is applied to the inside of the wall 1. Since the tubes comprise a portion of the wall, Kummel fails to disclose "a water-cooled cooling gap" defined by the pressure shell and a cooling wall inside the pressure shell, as now expressly recited in independent claim 1.

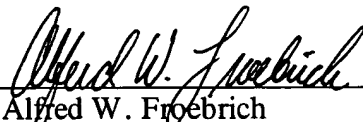
Price also fails to teach or disclose what Gudymov lacks. Price discloses a cylinder of an internal combustion engine with cooling tubes arranged around an outside of the cylinder wall. Since the water is arranged outside of the cylinder wall, Price also fails to disclose, teach or suggest "a water-cooled cooling gap" defined by the pressure shell and a cooling wall inside the pressure shell, as now expressly recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, the combined teachings of Gudymov, Kummel, and Price fail to disclose, teach or suggest "a water-cooled cooling gap" defined by the pressure shell and a cooling wall inside the pressure shell, as now expressly recited in independent claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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